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PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Mineworkers vaccination sites in Marikana

By Ephraim Malema: GCIS, North West

The Minister of Minerals and Energy, Gwede Mantashe, visited the vaccination sites of mineworkers at Sibanye Stillwater Mine in Marikana on 29 July 2021, to assess and monitor the vaccination progress.

Accompanied by North West Premier Job Mokgoro and Health MEC Madoda Sambatha, the Minister said the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out must also include the mining community of Marikana.

"The vaccination of mineworkers in this area must also be extended to the community of Marikana because they are part of the mining community. It is very important that they must also be vaccinated and the same vaccination sites which are used for mineworkers must also be used for the mining community," said Minister Mantashe.

He further encouraged mineworkers to continue adhering to the COVID-19 health protocols of always wearing masks, regular washing of hands or sanitising and social distancing.

MEC Madoda Sambatha said the existing vaccination sites for mineworkers will be used as the vaccination centres for the mining community. "We will definitely use these vaccine centres for the mining community of Marikana. As soon as we get more vaccines, these mining vaccine sites will be open for the mining community of Marikana to protect livelihoods against the pandemic and we hope soon we will get many vaccines," said the MEC in response to the Minister's suggestion.



Minister Gwede Mantashe and other government leaders monitoring vaccination sites at Sibanye Stillwater Mine in Marikana.



Mineworkers waiting for vaccination at Sibanye Stillwater Mine.









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WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps 021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200 Geraldine@gcis.gov.za

COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 18-year-olds and above:

Online at:

https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/

Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.

Via SMS by dialling *134*832#.
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Public-private partnership vaccination site launch

By Ndyebo Kopo: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Eastern Cape Health MEC Nomakhosazana Meth, launched a vaccination site at Wild Coast Sun International Casino in Mbizana on 11 August 2021.

This was realised through a public-private partnership between the Department of Health and Wild Coast Casino as part of the company's efforts to mitigate severe impact of COVID-19.

The site will service employees of the casino and community members living around it. This comes as a relief for many people from the surrounding villages, who would have had to travel to town or long distant clinics for vaccination. In line with the public-private partnership, the Department of Health will provide personnel and necessary equipment to perform vaccination-related work.

The general manager at Wild Coast, Peter Tshidi, indicated that the initiative was their second vaccination site in one of their establishments. He said that it was a grand representation of their commitment to put all hands on deck to partner with government to mitigate against COVID-19 pandemic. He urged all sectors of the society to emulate and be involved in the fight against COVID-19.

MEC Meth indicated that the partnership is in line with government's plan to ensure that vaccination reaches rural areas through partnership with all sectors of society such as church leaders, civil society, business sector and traditional leaders.

"It is pleasing for me as MEC for Health, to acknowledge on behalf of government the generous support of the Wild Coast Sun Management by having agreed to host a vaccination site on its premises. This goes to show the social activism of business which we hope will be emulated by many others whose support and involvement is encouraged," said MEC Meth.

The MEC believes that such partnerships will strengthen government's efforts to vaccinate many people. MEC Meth said that the number of people vaccinated and registered to vaccinate is encouraging, and more people have registred for vaccination in the Alfred Nzo District. The department has managed to administer over a million doses so far.





The screening and registration area at the Wild Coast Casino vaccination site.







Sergeant Motshewa Mohoali said: "I am very happy that I took the opportunity to come and vaccinate, as I work with the community on a daily basis, which makes me vulnerable to the virus. Being vaccinated means I can work freely knowing I am

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"Everything was communicated very well. Information about the vaccine, my rights on whether to take it or not were shared. The process was so quick and flawless. I feel protected from COVID-19."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Vaccine roll-out for police

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State

The South African Police Service (SAPS) vaccination roll-out programme in Lejweleputswa District was officially opened at the SAPS Thabong Training Centre by the Acting District Commissioner, Brigadier Mzondi Mojafi on 27 July 2021.

Brigadier Mojafi thanked all who attended with the aim to vaccinate as way to curb the spread of COVID-19. He further encouraged other SAPS members to protect themselves and other around them.

The response was overwhelming as most men and women in blue came in large numbers to get their vaccine. Citizens who are 18 years and above are encouraged to register for vaccination using the WhatsApp line 060 012 3456 or the SMS line *134*832*ID number#, or through the link: https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/.



vaccination.







PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Mass vaccination in John Taolo Gaetsewe District

By Tebogo Monyo: GCIS, Northern Cape

The Northern Cape Department of Health hosted a mass vaccination campaign for residents of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality from 31 July to 1 August 2021.

The purpose of the programme was to ensure that citizens who do not have time to vaccinate during the week are able to do so over the weekend.

Acting District Director Kagisho Taolo, said the district wanted to vaccinate as many citizens as possible, to ensure that the country reached its goal.

According to Taolo, the district has three fixed vaccination sites, namely; Kuruman Hospital, Olifantshoek Community Health Centre and Tshwaraganong Hospital.

The main outreach centre for mass vaccination was the Kuruman Mall, which also afforded citizens over the age of 35 the opportunity to register.

Mmabatho Mokause, a member of the National Council of Provinces said if South Africans have to go back to some sort of normality, then vaccination was the country's best bet.

Kegomoditswe Masilabele, member of the Mayoral Committee for Community Development, while on site, encouraged shoppers at the mall to get vaccinated. She said it was important for citizens to vaccinate in order to preserve lives and protect loved ones.



